

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to make an editorial change therein.

Claims 1-4 and 9-10 were rejected as unpatentable over DUNSTON 4,060,240 in view of TRENT 4,245,839 and SHIFFERAW 6,921,354. Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 2 and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Amended claim 1 defines an exercise device with a first strap (1), loops (3,7) attached to the first strap, and tubular handles (10) mounted on the loops and displaceable relative to the loops. The loops have a larger width than an internal diameter of the tubular handles.

SHIFFERAW discloses hand grips 13 on loops 16 (Figure 1; column 1, lines 45-67). The reference does not state that the hand grips are displaceable relative to the loops and does not disclose that the loops have a larger width than an internal diameter of the tubular handles. Figure 1 shows that the width of the loops 16 is no more than equal to the internal diameter of the hand grips 13. Since the combination of references does not disclose all that is claimed, the amended claims avoid the rejection under §103.

The larger width of the loops in the present invention retards displacement of the tubular handles to reduce interference with the user when the enlarged loop is around the

user's waist. The larger width also reduces the tendency of the strap to cut into the body of the user.

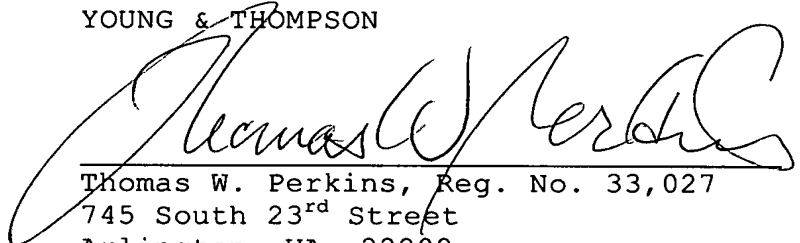
Claims 5 and 11-13 were rejected as unpatentable further in view of BRAATHEN 5,133,700 and claims 6-8 and 14-17 were rejected further in view of LINDEN 4,738,444. These claims are allowable for the reasons given above by virtue of their dependence on amended claim 1.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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